

**Notices to Airmen (NOTAM) for the OPERATIONAL EVALUATION OF RUNWAY  
STATUS LIGHTS (RWSL)  
At the  
DALLAS/FORT WORTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, DALLAS, TEXAS**

.....SPECIAL NOTICE..... AN ASSESSMENT OF RUNWAY STATUS LIGHTS (RWSL) WILL BE CONDUCTED ON RUNWAY 18L/36R AT THE DALLAS/FORT WORTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (DFW) FOR APPROXIMATELY THREE MONTHS COMMENCING FEBRUARY 14, 2005. EXACT HOURS OF OPERATION WILL BE NOTED IN AN ATIS ANNOUNCEMENT. RWSL IS AN EXPERIMENTAL SYSTEM USING BOTH PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SURVEILLANCE THAT SEEKS TO IMPROVE AIRPORT SAFETY BY INDICATING WHEN IT IS UNSAFE TO CROSS OR ENTER A RUNWAY. IT FUNCTIONS AUTOMATICALLY AND PROVIDES A DIRECT INDICATION OF RUNWAY STATUS TO PILOTS AND VEHICLE OPERATORS IN ORDER TO PREVENT RUNWAY INCURSIONS.

RWSL conveys the **runway status**, indicating when the runway is unsafe to enter through the use of Runway Entrance Lights (RELs). RELs have been installed at the following intersections of Runway 18L/36R:

West Side

at Taxiways Y, Z, WJ, WK, G8, WL, WM,  
B, and A

East Side

at Taxiways Y, YA, Z, B, and A

The RELs are a series of red in-pavement lights spaced evenly along the taxiway centerline from the taxiway hold line to the runway edge. One REL is placed just before the hold line and one REL is placed near the runway centerline. All RELs are directed toward the **runway hold line** and are oriented to be visible only to pilots and vehicle operators entering or crossing the runway from that location.

Operating independently of Air Traffic Control, RWSL has two states, **ON**: lights are illuminated **red**, indicating the runway is not safe to enter or cross, **RED MEANS STOP!** and **OFF**: lights are EXTINGUISHED, conveying no meaning. **OFF IS NOT A CLEARANCE TO PROCEED.** Pilots and vehicle operators remain obligated to comply with all ATC clearances, **except** when compliance would require crossing an illuminated red REL. In this atypical case, ***STOP SHORT*** of the runway (if possible), contact ATC, and await further instructions. ***ALSO, TRANSPONDERS MUST REMAIN ON WHILE OPERATING ON THE AIRPORT SURFACE TO PROVIDE RWSL WITH POSITION AND AIRCRAFT IDENTIFICATION DATA.***

Please visit the following web site for more information: [www.rwsl.net](http://www.rwsl.net)